

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 10374 221836Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----045208 221838Z /53

O R 221737Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5439
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10374

EXDIS

PARIS FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, RH, UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: NEXT STEPS

1. LOW AND SEITZ CONTINUED THE CONVERSATION ON NEXT STEPS FOR RHODESIA WITH GRAHAM AND FCO STAFF MEMBERS. THE MAIN SUBJECT WAS THE PARIS DISCUSSION WITH THE SECRETARY ON JUNE 23. GRAHAM OUTLINED THE MATTERS WHICH

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OWEN INTENDED TO RAISE AS FOLLOWS: HE WOULD FIRST DESCRIBE PLANS FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS INDICATING THE NEED FOR URGENT ACTION, OUTLINING PROPOSALS FOR BRITISH CONTRIBUTION (PROBABLY INCLUDING THEIR WILLINGNESS TO COMMIT A BATTALION OF ARMED FORCES) AND ASKING THE SECRETARY FOR A VIEW OF WHAT KIND OF FINANCIAL AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT
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COULD BE EXPECTED OF THE U.S. OWEN WOULD ASK THE SECRETARY ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA'S CURRENT VIEWS AS INDICATED BY BOTH IN WASHINGTON. HE WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN OUR ASSESSMENT OF MOZAMBICAN MOTIVES IN BRINGING THE RHODESIAN RAIDS TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL, ASKING ABOUT OUR UN STRATEGY.

2. GRAHAM REVIEWED HIS MINUTE TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE REQUESTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF CONSULTATIVE GROUP TALKS. HE WAS PROPOSING, AFTER MEETING WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IN LUSAKA, THAT HE THEN OUTLINE TO THE RHODESIANS THE FRONT'S CONDITIONS WITH SOME INDICATION OF THE AREAS WHERE THERE MAY BE SOME FLEXIBILITY. GRAHAM IS ALSO ASKING AUTHORITY TO BRIEF AND DISCUSS THE SUBJECT WITH THE SOUTH AFRICANS.

3. CALLAGHAN HAS INDICATED THAT HE SUPPORTS OWEN'S BROAD PLANS ON PROCEEDING WITH RHODESIAN TALKS ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT ABSOLUTELY CLEAR WHETHER THIS GOES TO A COMMITMENT OF A BATTALION OF TROOPS. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, BOTH GRAHAM AND THE PRIME MINISTER'S POLITICAL ADVISER (TOM MCNALLY), WITH WHOM LOW AND SEITZ ALSO TALKED, INDICATED CALLAGHAN'S BACKING FOR OWEN'S PLANS.

BREWSTER

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